

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

The Office Action dated September 9, 2005 rejected claims 1-19 and 30-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,049,832 to Brim *et al.* This response amends claims 1, 12, 30 and 31. Claims 20-29, 36, and 37 still remain cancelled. Entry of this amendment, reconsideration of claims 1-19 and 30-35 and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

II. Overview of Applicant's Invention and the Prior Art

Applicant's invention discloses a system and method for managing and processing input from unknown input devices and for facilitating third party input processing.

Brim et al., on the other hand, discloses *only* a system and method for accessing information found on a host computer with a client computer that is communicating with the host. (See column 2, lines 52-54).

III. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brim *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,049,832).

Regarding independent claim 1, the Examiner takes the position that *Brim et al.* teach or suggest all the elements of claim 1. In particular, the Examiner alleges that *Brim et al.* teach or suggest an input manager and staging area as recited in claim 1. No portion of *Brim et al.* teach or suggest all the elements of claim 1. Furthermore, the Examiner has failed to provide a motivation or suggestion statement for the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection. Thus, a prima facie case for the 103 rejection has not been met.

Additionally, claim 1 has been amended to further define the invention. The newly added recitation is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art of record. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable at least for these reasons.

Regarding dependent claims 2-11, claims 2-11 depend on independent claim 1. Thus, dependent claims 2-11 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1.

Regarding independent claim 12, the Examiner takes the position that *Brim et al.* teach or suggest all the elements of claim 12. In particular, the Examiner alleges that *Brim et al.* teach or suggest a staging area, set of filters, and a set of monitors as recited in claim 12. No portion of *Brim et al.* teach or suggest all the elements of claim 1. Similarly, the Examiner has failed to provide a motivation or suggestion statement for the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection. Thus, a prima facie case for the 103 rejection has not been met. Additionally, claim 12 has been amended to further define the invention. The newly added recitation is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art of record. Accordingly, claim 12 is patentable at least for these reasons.

Regarding dependent claims 13-19, claims 13-19 depend on independent claim 12. Thus, dependent claims 13-19 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 12.

Regarding independent claim 30, the Examiner takes the position that *Brim et al.* teach or suggest all the elements of claim 1. In particular, the Examiner alleges that *Brim et al.* teach or suggest an operating, accessing, monitoring, and manipulation operations as recited in claim 30. No portion of *Brim et al.* teach or suggest all the elements of claim 30. Likewise, the Examiner has failed to provide a motivation or suggestion

statement for the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection. Thus, a prima facie case for the 103 rejection has not been met. Additionally, claim 30 has been amended to further define the invention. The newly added recitation is not taught or suggested by the cited prior art of record. Accordingly, claim 30 is patentable at least for these reasons.

Regarding dependent claims 31-35, claims 31-35 depend on independent claim 30. Claim 31 has been amended to overcome any possible 112 rejection for lack of antecedent basis due to an amendment to claim 30. Thus, dependent claims 31-35 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 30.

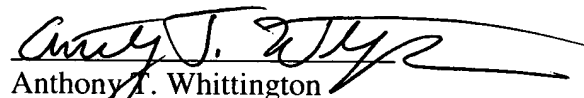
IV. Conclusion

If there are any questions regarding this response or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated, since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2112 (Attorney Docket No. MFCP.110236).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 11, 2005


Anthony J. Whittington
Registration No. 54,871
Richard D. Jordan
Registration No. 33,519
SHOOK, HARDY & BACON LLP
600 14th Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20005-2004
Phone: (202) 783-8400